

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 27-34 are pending in the application. Claims 9-26 and 35-52 are cancelled.

Claims 1-3, 7-8, 27-29, and 33-34 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent App. No. 2002/0010726 to Rogson, hereinafter "Rogson". Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 provides a method of spell checking a document being processed by a word processing program. The method includes (a) determining, from a content of the document, one or more topics of the document based on a group of words that includes words actually occurring in the document, (b) reporting a misspelled word to a user and (c) presenting to the user a list of replacement words that have spellings similar to the misspelled word. The list includes one or more words that are probably related to the one or more topics and are not yet found in the document.

Rogson discloses a method and software for automatically updating a spell check static update list by watching a user's typing and learning the words the user intended (par. 009). A computer system 405 includes a dynamic update list for spell checking (par. 0023). A dynamic update 535 watches for misspelled words (par. 0026). If a misspelling is detected that is not automatically corrected, dynamic update 535 checks to see if the user corrects the word, and increments a count of the number of times the word was corrected in the same way, or enters the misspelled word for future reference (par. 0026). If the user makes the same correction a threshold number of times, the system will include that word in the static update list for automatic correction (par. 0028). The static update list can store more than one possible correction (par. 0045). Dynamic update lists can be tied to a particular user or to a particular document (par. 0048).

Rogson discloses a spell-checking system that utilizes a user's previous manually entered corrections to present correct words or automatically correct a

misspelling. Rogson only discloses presenting a list of words based on previous user entries. Rogson is not concerned with the subject matter of the document, but rather is simply concerned with which words were previously corrected by a user. In contrast, the present invention looks to a topic or subject matter of a document, to determine potential correct words. By looking to the topic of a document, the present invention can present words that are related to the topic of the document, whether or not those words actually exist in the document. Thus, the present invention is not restricted by which words are present in the document or have been corrected by a user.

Rogson discloses presenting a list based solely on words corrected by a user. Rogson does not disclose or suggest "(a) determining, from a content of said document, one or more topics of said document based on a group of words that includes words actually occurring in said document; (b) reporting a misspelled word to a user; and (c) presenting to the user a list of replacement words that have spellings similar to said misspelled word, wherein said list includes one or more words that are probably related to said one or more topics and are not yet found in said document," as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, Rogson does not disclose or suggest the elements of claim 1. Thus, claim 1 is patentable over Rogson.

Claim 27 recites elements similar to those recited in claim 1. For at least reasoning similar to that provided in support of the patentability of claim 1, claim 27 is patentable over Rogson.

Claims 2 and 3 depend from claim 1, and claims 28, 29, 33 and 34 depend from claim 27. For at least reasoning similar to that provided in support of claims 1 and 27, claims 2, 3, 28, 29, 33 and 34 are also patentable over Rogson.

For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 1-3, 7-8, 27-29, and 33-34 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rogson is

overcome. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-3, 7-8, 27-29, and 33-34 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 4-6 and 30-32 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rogson in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,578,032 to Chandrasekar et al., hereinafter "Chandrasekar". Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As discussed above, Rogson does not disclose or suggest the elements of claim 1. Thus, claim 1 is patentable over Rogson.

Chandrasekar discloses clustering, i.e., grouping documents together that have a common text strings (col. 2, lines 1-12). Chandrasekar also discloses that a topic name can be selected for a cluster and/or a document, and that documents can be clustered based on common topic names(col. 2, lines 14-22).

The method includes receiving at least one character string, each of which includes a word or phrase, and clustering a first character string with another character string into one or more groups, when the first character string satisfies a predetermined degree of commonality with one or more character strings in each of these groups (col. 2, lines 25-31). The method also selects at least one of the character strings in each of the groups to be the group's topic name, based on a pre-designation or a frequency of the received character strings with the groups (col. 2, lines 34-38). The system receives search queries and compares these queries with stored cluster topics (col. 7, lines 20-31).

The system and method may be used to suggest alternative words for, e.g., spell-checking applications (col. 2, lines 39-41). When the invention receives a user's misspelled word, it may return the cluster's topic, representing a collection of correctly spelled words (col. 2, lines 45-49).

Chandrasekar discloses grouping items together into a cluster based on a so-called "topic name", which is simply a word or phrase that is common to all items

represented by the cluster. Chandrasekar also discloses presenting a collection of correctly spelled words, i.e., the cluster's topic name, in response to a comparison between an entered query and a cluster topic. Thus, Chandrasekar simply discloses returning a word or phrase that is a name of a cluster, based on similarities between character sets within the word or phrase and a query.

Chandrasekar does not disclose determining related words based on a topic, but rather **is limited to presenting those words that are part of a selected "topic name"**. Thus, Chandrasekar is limited to presented the "topic name" word or phrase, and **therefore does not disclose deriving words from a topic or subject matter of a document and presenting those derived words** in response to a misspelling. Furthermore, because Chandrasekar is limited to those words and phrases appearing in the cluster, Chandrasekar does not disclose deriving words that do not appear in the "topic name". In contrast, the present invention recites providing a list of related words derived from a topic of a document. The related words are not limited to a title or label of a document, and are further not limited to those words that actually appear in the document.

Thus, Chandrasekar does not disclose or suggest "(a) determining, from a content of said document, one or more topics of said document based on a group of words that includes words actually occurring in said document; (b) reporting a misspelled word to a user; and (c) presenting to the user a list of replacement words that have spellings similar to said misspelled word, wherein said list includes one or more words that are probably related to said one or more topics and are not yet found in said document," as recited in claim 1. Therefore, Chandrasekar does not disclose or suggest the elements of claim 1.

Rogson and Chandrasekar, whether considered alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest the elements of claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is patentable over the cited combination of Rogson and Chandrasekar.

Claim 27 recites elements similar to those recited in claim 1. For at least reasoning similar to that provided in support of the patentability of claim 1, claim 27 is patentable over the cited combination of Rogson and Chandrasekar.

Claims 4-6 depend from claim 1, and claims 30-32 depend from claim 27. For at least reasoning similar to that provided in support of claims 1 and 27, claims 4-6 and 30-32 are also patentable over the cited combination of Rogson and Chandrasekar.

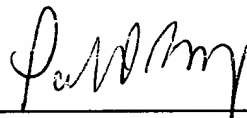
For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 4-6 and 30-32 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rogson in view of Chandrasekar is overcome. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 4-6 and 30-32 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

An indication of the allowability of all pending claims by issuance of a Notice of Allowability is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

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